GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3995
ANSWERED ON:09.04.2003
SELLING OF TELECOM LICENCES
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken decision recently to authorize the licence holders to sell telecom licences;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the changes effected in licensing system during the last three years and the dates on which the said changes have been effected?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) & (b): Sir, the Government have taken a decision on 25.03.2003 to permit transfer of licences in respect to Telecom Service, which may take place by way of merger or de-merger of companies, subject to certain conditions. The salient conditions are given in the Annexure.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

ANNEXURE

Salient condition of permitting transfer of licence of Telecom Services as decided by the Government on 25.03.2002

(i) The new entity to which the licence gets transferred should be eligible for grant of a fresh licence of that particular service.

(ii) All the terms and conditions of the licence including the complete rollout obligation will apply to the transferee company irrespective of the time at which such transfer takes place and there will be no dilution with regard to the same.

(iii) All the past dues till the date of transfer will have to be cleared before transfer of licence is allowed.

(iv) Provisions of Section 391 to 394 of the Companies Act, 1956 will be complied with for de-merger of a company.